

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region VI  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Monday, February 26, 2007

**From:** Karen McCormick

**Subject:** Continuation of Action  
Central Crude LaFourche Spill  
9793 Highway 308, Lockport, LA  
Latitude: 29.5898200  
Longitude: -90.4435500

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	5	<b>Site #:</b>	NRC 827176
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	2/26/2007	<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	2/22/2007	<b>Response Authority:</b>	OPA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	2/22/2007	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #</b>	
<b>FPN#</b>	E07607		

### Site Description

On February 22, 2007, the National Response Center was notified of an oil spill from a 26,000 barrel above ground storage tank (tank 9195) associated with the Central Crude Valentine Facility adjacent to Bayou Lafourche in Lockport, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana (NRC No. 827176). The facility address is 9793 Highway 308, Lockport, Louisiana. The spill was a result of the failure of a four inch flexible hose used to transfer crude oil from the oil storage tank through a pump into a pipeline. The facility operator began transferring oil from tank 9195 at 0130 hours on the morning of 22 February, 2007. The operator discovered spilled oil in tank 9195 secondary containment at 0530 on the same day. Oil from tank 9195 seeped from its secondary containment, into an adjacent tank's secondary containment through a storm water drainage valve. The oil then traveled to the secondary containment storm water discharge valve. The valve was closed, however; the soil surrounding the piping and valve leading from the interior of the secondary containment to an adjacent canal had eroded. This provided the oil a pathway from the secondary containment into the canal. The canal is approximately 400 feet long, and from the entrance of the drainage piping, it flows approximately 150 feet south into Bayou Lafourche. Oil from the facility entered Bayou Lafourche, a tidally influenced, navigable waterway of the United States. The operator terminated transfer of oil through the failed hose and notified the facility manager who activated the facility's response contractor, Environmental Safety and Health, Inc. (ES&H). The operator closed the valve between the secondary containment units, and placed onsite boom across the canal mouth in an attempt to prevent additional oil from reaching the bayou. The facility operator estimates that approximately 1,800 barrels (bbls) of crude oil was discharged through the broken hose, of which 1,600 bbls remained within the secondary containment units, 100 bbls was contained within the canal, and 100 bbls entered Bayou Lafourche. This estimate is greater than the initial estimate of 350 bbls. ES&H personnel arrived at the spill scene on February 22, 2007 at 0900 and initiated containment and recovery activities. The spill impacted the 400 feet of the canal and approximately 1.1 miles of Bayou Lafourche.

Due to the proximity of the spill to the United States Coast Guard MST 3 in Houma, LA and the impact to a navigable waterway, two USCG representatives, Petty Officers Hendry and Ariail, responded to the spill scene at 0830 on 22 February 2007. Upon arrival of EPA representatives, the USCG provided the representatives with a briefing of events and transferred oversight responsibilities to the EPA and departed the spill scene.

### **Current Activities**

On 25 February 2007, EH&S recovered 1.25 bbls of oil from Bayou Lafourche, 7.4 bbls of oil from AST 9195 secondary containment, and 10 cubic yards of oil saturated sorbent boom and debris from Bayou Lafourche.

On 26 February 2007, EH&S recovered 22 cubic yards of oil saturated sorbent boom and debris. At the end of operations on 26 February 2007, ES&H has recovered a total of 1,936 bbls of oil, and 47 cubic yards of oil saturated sorbent boom and debris. EH&S focused resources on recovery and containment of oil in Bayou Lafourche. Oil saturated boom was exchanged and bagged for disposal. To date a total of 9,950 feet of containment boom and 32,000 feet of sorbent boom has been deployed. EH&S began washing operations within the bayou to corral oil for recovery. Several small pockets of emulsified oil that migrated passed downstream containment and located along the northern bank of the bayou were recovered. Also, LDEQ representative, Steve Lorio, stated that he has not observed any impacted wildlife, believes the containment of oil has been successful, and the bayou will need some form of traffic control prior to opening.

### **Planned Removal Actions**

RP clean up contractors will continue containment, clean up and recovery operations. Projected completion date has not been established. ES&H plans to focus resources on recovery of spilled oil in Bayou Lafourche. ES&H will mobilize additional oil recovery and containment equipment to the site as necessary, and plan to reopen Bayou Lafourche once threat has been mitigated. Plains Marketing, owner of transfer facility, plans to repair damaged storm drain that allowed spilled oil to enter Bayou Lafourche by end of the week.

### **Next Steps**

EPA representatives will return to the site on 27 February 2007 to document response activities and communicate that information to the OSC.

### **Key Issues**

- Spill affected Bayou Lafourche a tidally influenced navigable waterway of the US.
- Shorelines of the bayou are comprised of cord grass and reeds making recovery of oil from the vegetated areas difficult.
- Significant boat operations will be necessary for recovery.
- The bayou has been closed to recreational and commercial boat traffic.
- Potential for impact to wildlife.

[www.epaossc.org/centralcrude](http://www.epaossc.org/centralcrude)